THE DAILY COMMERCIAL,
PUBLISHED BY
THE COMMERCIAL PRINTING COMPANY,
CORNER FIFTH AVENUE AND SMITHFIELD STREET,
(Opposite Postoffice—Entrance on Fifth Avenue.)
C. D. BRIGHAM, - - - - - - *Editor.*
R. D. THOMPSON, *Business Manager.*
TERMS OF THE DAILY:
Single Copy ..... 3 Cents.
Delivered by Carrier (per week) ..... 25 Cents.
Subscribed by Mail (per Year) $10 00
☞ Communications designed for publication should be addressed to the Editor.
☞ Letters on Business, Subscriptions, &c., should be addressed to
THE COMMERCIAL, PITTSBURGH.

The Pittsburgh Commercial.

VOL. VIII. PITTSBURGH, TUESDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 13, 1870. NO. 75.

FIRST EDITION.

12 O'CLOCK, M.

WASHINGTON.

Porter an Admiral No More Forever.

Logan's Bill Abolishing the Grades of Admiral and Vice Admiral Passed by the House—Discussion of the Subject in the Senate—The Pacific Railroad Lobby Gathering in Force—The Passage of a New Apportionment Bill Urged by the Western Men—Senator Drake Censured for Resigning—Appropriation for the Louisville and Portland Canal—The San Domingo Scheme Up in Both Houses—The Charges Made by Mr. Welsh Against the Indian Bureau to be Investigated—The Time of Assembling of Congress—The First Colored Member of the House Sworn In—Secretary Boutwell's Views on Funding the Debt—Gen. Pleasanton to be Commissioner of Internal Revenue—Schurz's Amnesty Resolution, &c., &c.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 11, 1870.

Logan's Bill Passed.

The House had a lively time to-day over Logan's bill abolishing the rank of Admiral and Vice Admiral, which was taken up, asked for a suspension of the rules and made a short but stirring speech in favor of the bill, basing his support of the measure wholly on the merits of the question, whether it was good policy to longer retain these grades. Mr. Hale, of Maine, in his haste to defend Porter, said it seemed to him he saw the disposition to make a contest on the bill, scarcely any one seemed desirous of apologizing for Porter. When Butler got the floor the whole House listened to what he has been long since he carried it with him so fully. Even Butler himself seemed to have been satisfied with the opportunity afforded of squaring his accounts with Porter, and the good time made of it. The temper of the House was shown in a hardly less marked degree by the fact that it listened with evident relief to a speech from Orr, of New York, explaining and denouncing against Porter, becoming and appropriate as the present Secretary of the Navy. When Logan called the previous question on the bill for a suspension of the rules and passage of the bill, requiring a two-thirds vote, not a single voice was raised in the negative.

Soon after the action of the House, the Senate went into executive session, and the question confirming Porter came up almost immediately. Senator Drake assumed the chairmanship of the confirmation, and was warmly supported by Nye and Morton, while those who supported the confirmation, Trumbull and Edmunds made the most notable speeches. There was a great deal of feeling upon the subject, and the Senate adjourned pending the discussion. Senator Nye, during his speech, was taken somewhat ill, and the Clerk of the House appearing and announcing the hour of the session of the Senate, he at once attempted to turn this to account by terming the course of the House a blow aimed at the dignity of the Senate. He was not allowed, however, to make his associates feel very badly over the matter.

Pacific Railroad Lobby.

Since Congress has shown a disposition to legislate with regard to Pacific Railroad matters, a large lobby has come here to look after the interests of these roads. A copy of a printing a copy of Judge Hoar's opinion on this question, given when he was Attorney General of the United States, printed in pamphlet form, was laid on the desk of every member in each House. From present appearances the questions raised by the action of the Secretary of the Treasury in withholding pay for services and transportation of freight and transportation will be the cause of considerable legislative action in Congress this winter. Several bills are now preparing bills to cover this case, which will be offered at an early day. Judge Hoar's opinion, it is claimed by a considerable number, as at present drawn will not give the government sufficient protection, even though it could reach the railroad lands, which it can not do in many instances. Meanwhile a strong pressure will be brought to bear upon the Attorney General to get him to withhold his decision, whatever it is, until Congress has legislated on the matter.

The New Apportionment.

The Western members will strongly urge the passage of the new apportionment bill this session, in order that their section may have the benefit of the additional number of Representatives to which it is entitled on account of the increase in population. It is stated that the Census Bureau has definitely and officially ascertained the actual population of the Western States. The objection on this score, which was then considered the principal one, is now completely fatile.

Senator Drake Censured.

There has been a good deal of severe comment to-day among both Senators and members upon the decision of Mr. Drake to relinquish his remaining three years in the Senate, when he makes no secret of his belief that a Democrat will be immediately elected to succeed him.

A Democratic Break Down.

Mr. McCreery, of Kentucky, evidently surprised his Democratic associates to day by his resolution for the exhumation of Arlington in the Lee family, and the previous removal of the remains of soldiers buried there. Mr. McCreery had asked permission to make some remarks before the resolution was read, but as soon as the reading was finished, instead of proceeding to address, withdraw it and sat down, the marked coolness of the Senate and the evident desire of the Democrats to have the matter passed over, both contributing to his break down.

Transportation of Imported Goods to Interior.

The House has directed one of its Committees to inquire what changes appear to be necessary in the law for the transporting of imported merchandise in bulk to Western ports of entry, in order to make it practical.

Louisville and Portland Canal.

A bill making the necessary appropriations for completing the Louisville and Portland Canal, was referred to the Committee on Appropriations.

An Oratorical Event.

Senator Schurz will, when his amnesty resolution comes up on Thursday, review the late campaign in Missouri at considerable length. His speech is already set down as one of the interesting events of the week.

San Domingo Again.

The San Domingo question came up in each House to-day, and in substantially the same shape. Both Morton and Banks offered a resolution for the appointment of commissioners to proceed to the Island and gather a great variety of information. Mr. Morton did not ask action, but Mr. Banks attempted to pass his resolution. The House, however, refused to second the previous question by 66 to 82. A motion then followed to lay on the table, and in this the House actually refused to further debate

The Daily Commercial.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 1870.

It is to be hoped that it is not expected that Gen. GRANT will make provision for all the defeated members and Senators. The number is considerable just now, and perhaps may not decrease for some time yet. Senator WARNER, who wanted only one vote to re-elect him to the United States Senate from Alabama, is the latest candidate for hospital orders, and the report is he will either be sent to Utah as Governor or made Commissioner of the General Land Office. He has made a very respectable Senator, and doubtless is capable of making an equally useful citizen —a class of which Alabama stands in need as much as anything else, and in this capacity it is suggested he, and others in the same fix, should consent to act for a while, and not bother Gen. GRANT for an office.

THE terms of the lease of the Camden and Amboy Railroad, for which the Pennsylvania Central has been for some time negotiating, are believed to have been virtually agreed upon, though nothing has been made public. It is understood, however, that the dividends guaranteed to the New Jersey stockholders are in the neighborhood of ten per cent. The arrangement cannot be regarded with lively satisfaction by Philadelphia, and there is just room for the suggestion that one of the objects of the Central in making the offer to help a Philadelphia steamship line is to appease that city and make her feel that probably after all she is the principal terminus, not only of the Central but the Pacific Road. But the steamships as yet exist only in the imagination, and may never exist anywhere else, while the Camden and Amboy lease is as good as a fixed fact.

THE publication of letters, in the writing of which about each other public men have pretty freely indulged in the last half dozen years, is not, if half we hear is true, likely to end with PORTER'S letter to WELLES, nor even with BUTLER'S suppressed book on GRANT. When a thing becomes fashionable or degenerates into a mania, there is no knowing to what it will lead. More PORTER letters are to come, and the BUTLER-GRANT book progressed too far to render it possible to stretch over it the mantle of oblivion; and antagonisms, old and new, will bring out letters involving others no less unpleasantly. There will be a fine chance for the display of magnanimity, but it is doubtful whether everybody will be disposed to be as magnanimous as GRANT has been towards PORTER, or even whether he can keep up the flow of magnanimity to an indefinite extent.

SUPERFLUITY of zeal in the execution of the law was rather strikingly illustrated, a few days ago, by the arrest of a party of Pittsburgh sportsmen. They were charged with shooting partridges in violation of a statute which was believed to have been passed by a late legislature for the protection of the bird. A law of the kind was enacted not long ago, but it applies only to two or three counties in the eastern part of the State. It prohibits killing partridges for three years, and is of the same tenor with a law which is alleged to have produced good results in Minnesota. In spite of the precedent, and admitting the desirableness of keeping up a supply of the birds in question, persons familiar with the subject deny the need of any additional legislation for the purpose. By our present Pennsylvania game law, shooting partridges is prohibited for six weeks or two months. The occasional scarcity of the bird, which sometimes leads people to fear its extinction, is not the result, they say, of its destruction by man, but of the severity of certain seasons. But they multiply with prodigious rapidity, and after a favorable winter, they are always so abundant that the industry and skill of sportsmen make little impression upon their number. The best mode of preventing their disappearance would be to make some provision for feeding them in hard winters.

A THIRTY YEAR old instance of the power of the press to prevent improper Congressional action has just been made public by a letter from CHRISTOPHER MORGAN, who was a member of the House of Representatives in 1841. At that time the nomination of Hon. EDWARD EVERETT as Minister to England was pending in the Senate, and to reject him, as was feared would be done, on account of his opposition to slavery, would probably involve the country in trouble, especially as JOHN TYLER'S administration had just begun, and his then unpronounced course had awakened intense solicitude in view of measures of vast national importance then pending. This crisis brought many politicians to Washington, among them THURLOW WEED, who spent much time with Mr. MORGAN. One evening the two called on Senator MOREHEAD, of Kentucky, with whom they found Senator MANGUM, of North Carolina. After a long talk, Senator MOREHEAD told them that Mr. EVERETT'S confirmation would fall on account of his abolition sentiments, a result that would occasion injurious agitation throughout the country. Mr. WEED said this must be stopped—the country can't afford the agitation," and accordingly wrote a brief letter announcing what was about to be done and appealing to the people to speak out against it. Then Messrs. WEED and MORGAN went to work and by seven the next morning had written letters to twenty or twenty-five leading journals all over the North. That evening's mail brought the Baltimore *Patriot* denouncing Mr. EVERETT'S rejection, and every succeeding day brought similar word from the other journals that had been written to, until it appeared as if the entire country had been impulsively aroused to avert what seemed an impending evil. The Senators heeded the words of the newspapers and confirmed Mr. EVERETT, HENRY CLAY being encouraged to speak in his behalf, whereas he had before determined to give only a silent vote for him.

HARD WINTERS AND HEALTH.

It is a common impression that what is called an exceptionally mild winter, such as the present has thus far been, is an unhealthy winter. People call moderate weather in December or January unseasonable, and seem to suppose that the fact thus designated accounts for the prevalence of disease, or warrants them in expecting it. We suspect that the popular notion on the subject is a popular, or what SIR THOMAS BROWN denominated a vulgar error. Sudden transitions from mildness to severity of temperature doubtless subject the human constitution to violent shocks, and are very likely to produce disease, unless proper precautions be taken to guard against evil effects by change of clothing, or by avoiding exposure. Such sudden changes have always been a dangerous and disagreeable feature of our middle State climate, and their injurious effects, in the absence of careful observation, or just discrimination, may have produced confusion in the popular mind as to the real connection between health and temperature. Then, we know that people used to be more careless than they are now in keeping their feet dry, and mild moist weather in winter may have been held responsible for sickness which was really due to wet feet, that fertile cause of disease. Through such mistakes the common notion may have arisen. But unless we err, in a climate like that of Pennsylvania severe cold always exposes the human system to a hard and more or less dangerous trial. That is, not being Esquimaux, or Laplanders, vehement cold not being their element, the inhabitants of these latitudes, during most of the year living in a warm or else a very moderate temperature, cannot but suffer more or less injury from the severity of a winter such as we often have in Pennsylvania. An such as we often have in Pennsylvania. An "old fashioned winter," which many long for, for the sake of its peculiar enjoyments, is perhaps a visitation to be dreaded. Those best provided with close houses and warm raiment cannot wholly avoid its violent shocks. We need not mention the positive suffering of the less fortunate. In such a season those sudden and violent transitions referred to above as so injurious, become a daily experience of all who ever leave their fires, and besides in many cases the evils of insufficient ventilation, where is an incessant and extraordinary [illegible] upon the vital energies which [illegible] life. We do not profess to speak on this subject with the authority of professional knowledge, and are quite ready to stand corrected.

A MULTITUDE OF ADVERSES.

The political article in the current number of *Harper's Weekly* argues that "the old issues are not settled yet, simply because the old spirit survives;" that, therefore, "those Republicans, who, upon a theory that Revenue Reform is the most vital and paramount of all issues," would switch off on that or any other new issue, "assume a very heavy responsibility." The *Independent*, on the contrary, says the old issues are worn out, dead, and cites as proof that reconstruction is disposed of by General GRANT in his message in half a dozen lines. It argues that a new issue is necessary, if the Republican party and General GRANT'S administration are to succeed, and is confident that Civil Service Reform should be that issue. The *Independent* advances some strong arguments, drawn from the New York standpoint, which are more or less applicable to the whole country. We quote as follows:

We trust that President Grant will open his eyes to this fact. And, when we speak of opening his eyes, it is because we think him honest. One evidence of this fact is the lamentable influence which the general administration has exerted on the politics of New York and Brooklyn. Such an institution as the Custom-house in New York, or the Navy Yard in Brooklyn, but particularly the former, *becomes* by its management (or mismanagement) a quick and sure test of the principles of an administration. We are constrained to say that the Custom-house from the beginning of the President's term, has vitally kept his administration under the suspicion of employing the immense power of that responsible institution for the purposes of a more than warrantable partisanship. A wholesome civil service reform would make such a revolution in the Custom-house as could be compared to nothing less than an earthquake. But whoever shall be shaken by it let the reform come. And, if the President himself could institute it, he would execute the reminder of his term to the great work of purifying the civil list; if he would everywhere take care that none but able and honest men were occupying responsible stations under the Government; if he would light his cigar and sit up o' nights over this imminent and necessary problem; if he could be lured or driven from waltzing now here, now there, such a reform is to the welfare of the country and to the success of his administration—he might yet retrieve the half-lost glory of his term, and despite the his fading laurels with a green spray. Otherwise, the people will call a new man to be next President.

On the other hand, the *Herald* has made the discovery that "Cuba is the Pivot of Politics and the Touchstone of GRANT." It is confident that the country waits only for GRANT to bring forth a new issue, old ones of the past ten years having been exhausted. It avers that the country is "weary of the day of small things coming after the day of such great things. And it is asking with no small anxiety what pause has come in the working of the great soldier brain, which restored the Union, that to the President it seems to furnish so little material for creating the enthusiasm which, as general in the field, he had the power so plentifully to evoke."

And so on—nearly every other leading journal in the land has a prescription of its own which it is pressing on General GRANT with an earnestness of life or death. On one point this multitude of advisers agree: The country requires that the administration shall have a positive policy. This is announced in the concluding portion of General GRANT'S message. Thrown into measures and set practically at work, nothing could be framed that would be more satisfactory.

THE ROD.

The "rod of corporal punishment" having been some time ago abolished in the public schools of New York city, grievous complaints are made by teachers of their inability to maintain order among their scholars. In the last *Tribune* there is a communication on the subject from Mr. S. S. RANDALL, formerly Superintendent of Schools, but now retired. He speaks of the abolition of corporal punishment as a "measure for which too much credit cannot be given the Board," and as a measure "imperatively demanded by public opinion and the advanced civilization of the age." With equal emphasis he affirms the complaints of the teachers to be well founded, and says that in omitting to provide a proper and adequate substitute for the rod, the Board was guilty of a neglect of duty. What this substitute ought to be, Mr. RANDALL is troubled with no doubts. Suspension from the privilege of the school, in the first place, and if suspension fails to secure the requisite submission to the teacher's rule, expulsion from one school and exclusion from all, are the remedies which he suggests as obviously proper and adequate. Probably the case will not appear so clear to all as it appears to Mr. RANDALL. On the contrary, such a substitute for the rod seems open to very serious objections, in view of the character of very many of the boys who attend the schools in great cities. In a very select private school, the substitute might do very well, because most of the pupils would likely have a very distinct notion of the severity of the punishment as having a keen sense of its disgrace. On the other hand, in every public school there are commonly boys who would relish nothing much more than to be thrown out and forbidden ever to return. They would revel in the consciousness of the distinction thus conferred upon them, and still more in anticipation of an idle, careless life. By not a few, expulsion would be regarded as a sort of license to set up in the glorious and independent career of a vagabond. In the class of the population to which many of these boys belong, corporal punishment is still in vogue as a means of domestic discipline and control; the rod is still the instrument by which alone parental authority is asserted and maintained. After joining a school, some considerable time must elapse before a boy thus brought up can learn to respect a government divested of the right to make itself obeyed by the infliction of pain, the only mode of punishment with which he is familiar. In nine cases out of ten such a boy will despise as imbecile an authority not thus supported. Then how absurd it is to talk about "civilization" as prohibiting corporal punishment! Every thing depends upon the spirit in which it is inflicted. Injudiciously, or malignantly carried out, of course it may brutalize both the active agent and the sufferer. But the same may be said of any other sort of punishment that deserves the name. The truth is that the results of good discipline in schools, the habits of obedience and submission to superior command acquired in them, if they are well managed, are quite as valuable, and as necessary to success in life as all the little knowledge which it is possible to acquire. Such habits are the grand characteristic of civilized men. If boys subjected only to rough or no discipline at home, can be drilled into becoming deference for authority and submission to rules at school without the rod, it is well. But in the case of many it is impossible, and nothing can compensate the failure either to society or themselves. No permanent evil proceeds from the momentary degradation inflicted by the rod upon such subjects. But to expel them from the schools and let them grow up in ignorance, will really degrade our civilization. Neither the boys nor their parents fully understand the civilized scruples which prefer expulsion to flogging. The man so tenderly and personalsively dealt with, so humored and indulged at school, that he takes fire and is ready with his pistol or knife at any rebuff or slight that can be construed into an affront, is not the most admirable product of advanced civilization. On the contrary, he reminds us of NAPOLEON'S saying concerning the Russian—"Scratch him and the Tartar appears." There used to be millions of them to the South of us.

From the *Volksblatt* we learn that a German-English Normal school is to be established in Broadhead, Monroe county, in this State. The Rev. DANIEL E. SCHOEDLER is at the head of the movement. If there are to be German schools, an institution in which the teachers may be trained and prepared for their work must be admitted to be a necessity. At a recent meeting in Broadhead the projected school was the subject of considerations when the late School Superintendent STORM made a speech. He stated that while in office, when assigning teachers in those parts of the county where German is chiefly spoken, he had preferred those who spoke only English. He has since then seen his error, and is now "fully convinced that the best teachers for our free schools are those only who, in heart and soul and speech, are able to sympathize with their German speaking scholars." He expressed the opinion that "German is destined to be a world-speech, and that one of the results of the German-French war will be that, to every educated person, a knowledge of the German language will be indispensably necessary."

As we have said more than once, there can hardly be a doubt that German influence throughout the world will be greatly increased in consequence of German success in the present war, and that the German language will be more extensively studied and German books more read than ever before. It is, however, very surprising that sensible and educated Germans fail to perceive that their language can never be the popular speech of the United States. By persisting to cherish the delusion, and by the consequent neglect of English, the Germans simply fail to assert for themselves in the affairs of the country the degree of influence to which their numbers and intelligence entitle them. It therefore seems to us very unwise as well as very unkind to the rising generation of German-Americans, to train them in a foreign tongue to the neglect of the language, familiarity with which is indispensably necessary to their highest success in all public careers.

It is to be regretted if German successes in Europe have affected many as they seem to have effected Mr. Superintendent STORM.

THE Philadelphia *Inquirer* has something to say upon what it considers Pennsylvania's taxes upon her own industry. This is done in view of the early assembling of the Legislature, and is a gentle hint to the people will be necessary to remember the interests of the manufacturers in his message. The *Inquirer* takes the ground that our State tax laws are arranged upon the basis of convenience, not justice, and collect their revenues from corporations, because, being in part creatures of the State, it can get at them more easily. Under this system it thinks that it seems to be considered that corporations ought to bear not only their own legitimate burdens, but should make up for the just responsibilities of other portions of community. Thus, while it may be said that there is no general personal taxation other than poll tax, the main portion of the State revenue comes from corporations, which, by the act of May 1, 1868, pay taxes as follows:

One-half mill for each one per cent. of dividend declared; of three mills on the valuation of the capital stock of non-dividend paying companies; transportation companies, railroad companies and canal companies shall be taxed three quarters of one per centum on their gross receipts; coal companies are required to pay four cents per ton for coal mined, which amount is free from the tax on tonnage, net earnings or gross receipts. Furthermore, new companies established under the State laws are liable, with the exception of canal companies, turnpike, transportation, cemetery, literary and charitable corporations, to the payment of a bonus to the State for the privilege of going into operation, which amounts to a quarter of one per cent., half of which sum must be paid before the company can go into operation, and the balance in a year.

This certainly is a strong pull at corporation purses, and it is no wonder that men prefer the risk and inconvenience of partnerships without such burthens, to the adaptability and concentrated power of joint stock companies, which are so oppressed.

THE Director of the Mint in his report renews his recommendation of a year ago, in favor of the coinage of silver tokens, of the denomination of ten, twenty-five and fifty cents, equal in purity, but inferior in weight, to the standard, exchangeable for United States notes and fractional currency, and a legal tender for sums of five or ten dollars. So far as reducing the standard is concerned, he says that our present coins are not what they should be, in weight or value. In suggesting that upon the resumption of specie payment these tokens could be called in and recoined to standard, he observes that would be no objection, as the recoining of silver, when long used as a circulating medium, is a necessity, as it becomes deteriorated in value and defaced by abrasion when in constant use. He places the value of these tokens at 92 cents for half dollars, 18.2 for quarters and 7.28 for dimes, and thinks this reaction will counteract any tendency to hoard or export them. It is further suggested that by coining the silver at the mint of Denver and Colorado will be used, and the Government could pay the miners such a price as would prevent the export of our silver product to China or Europe. The position taken by the Director seems to be a reserve; at any rate, the people will be pleased with any scheme to rid them of the nuisance of the nasty, dirty, counterfeit "scrip."

ONE or two facts of importance, in connection with any trouble like to be engendered with Canada, are given by the New York *Times*. One is that the bluster that the refusal of the privilege of transporting goods in bond will seriously affect the commercial interests of the province of Ontario, at least, in putting its merchants at the mercy of their rivals in Quebec. Another is that neither Great Britain nor the Dominion should desire itself with the idea that a doctrine invented by Nova Scotia petit jiggers, long after the Convention of 1818 had been agreed upon, and by the application of which the most valuable fishing grounds are monopolized by the provincials, ever was or ever will be acquiesced in by the United States. Its assertion in 1852 brought us near to war, which the Reciprocity Treaty only averted, without in the least removing the real ground of difference. Now that the assertion of this same doctrine in 1870 brings up the same contingency of war, no reciprocity treaty will be available to settle the difficulty, which must have its causes absolutely removed.

THE Philadelphia *North American* makes a statement of considerable importance, if it shall be sustained. It declares that American steamships develop one-horse power hourly with but 1.54 pounds of coal, while the English use 2.66 pounds to produce the same result. Here is a six per cent. hourly advantage in favor of the former, which counts to very much in a single passage and to all the difference between loss and profit in a year's business. It declares, too, that the experience of the great American houses of Russell & Co., and of Cunard & Co., with their extensive steamer lines in the Chinese waters, shows that the more economical working of American steamships over English pay the greater cost of the former in a single year, and that, though even during the rebellion, these firms ordered their vessels at home. They cost more at first, but save their extra cost soon by more economical running. The *North American* will give further information upon this subject, for it promises great things for an American merchant marine.

THE Philadelphia *North American* does not believe the public offices are a source of strength to a political party, but the contrary. The number who must be disappointed must always exceed greatly those who are successful, and experience proves that large numbers of these who fail draw at once into the opposition. It would like to see in the civil service the plan of promotion regularly from grade to grade, the same as in the army and navy, so that experience once acquired should be a recognized merit and claim to consideration. In the Pennsylvania Railroad system, it says, this system was adopted years ago, with eminent benefit, and is continued to this day. Young men are employed in the lowest grades of service, and all who stand the test there are in the line of promotion to better posts. We know of men of talent and great usefulness in that company who have thus gradually worked their way up from humble positions to offices of great responsibility, trust and power.

On April 29th, 1863, Commodore Porter attacked Grand Gulf with his iron-clads, and withdrew after six hours firing, having accomplished nothing. Two days afterward Grant whipped the rebels at Port Gibson, fifteen miles east of Grand Gulf, so that they fled to Vicksburg, abandoning and blowing up the latter post, to which Porter hastened. Upon arriving, he caused the guns, that had fallen into our hands through the army's exertions, to be ranked in while paint, about as follows: "Captured by the United States Mississippi flotilla, under acting Rear Admiral D. D. Porter, in a naval action at Grand Gulf, on the 29th of April, 1863." This false claim was kept up throughout the campaign, and the soldiers, when they saw the guns, which were brought up against Vicksburg, were restrained from openly denouncing Porter only by his general character for bravery.

A CHICAGO letter to the New York *Tribune* in noting the fact of an advance in railroad freight to New York, with prospect of a further increase, says that the business of shipping grain by rail is assuming so great proportions that all new facilities in that direction are welcomed with pleasure, and in this connection much interest is felt in the proposed extension of the line of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad to this city. His language is:

More than ordinary interest is now felt in the success of this project, owing to the recent decision of the people of New York that they will not abate one iota of their toll on Western produce passing through the Erie Canal until all the canals of the State—several of which never have and never will pay any return for the investment—are paid for by the earnings of the Erie. The West does not look upon this action as just, much less generous; and will be apt to seek any route that will enable them to avoid paying any more for works in which they have no interest.

Count Valmasedo, the new Captain General of Cuba, has held that office before, and April 4th, issues a proclamation, with these barbarous orders to his men:

1. To shoot every man over fourteen years of age found away from his habitation. 2. To burn every unoccupied habitation; 3. To burn every habitation upon which its occupants did not float a white flag as a signal that they desired peace.

Spain by re-instating him after such action, evinces a purpose to encourage him in his barbarous policy, and will lose more than she will gain by the operation. If she had any friends for her scheme to retain Cuba, few of them will be able to stand by her, after this exhibition of approval of brutality.

THE "colored cadet" has given the War Department as much trouble as any six white boys at the Academy; but it appears that unseen influences are hard at work to prevent the proper move by the military authorities in asserting their own dignity.

A WRITER in the *Old and New*, who seems to understand his subject, avers that the Chinese merchants in San Francisco are honorable and able men, and of rather better mechanitle standing in California than an equal number of merchants of any other nationality.

THE Democrats must look to their new national organ, the Washington *Patriot*, for it actually praises the President, and says his reply to the speech of the new French Minister was "graceful and becoming."

SMALL NOTES.

It is stated that Cincinnati manufacturers have discovered that their operatives' being paid on Monday instead of Saturday evening is a sure cure for drunkenness on the latter. This may be true, but does it not reveal the fact that their operatives must receive wages only a little more than sufficient to support their families during the week, since they have none on Saturday eve for their regular "bender." A man is pretty "far gone" (financially speaking) when he cannot afford to take "just one little spree."

A certain farmer out West has nicely grained and papered a new pig-pen, and given an entire new coating of whitewash to his house, in the last month. He is the same man who beat his wife for cruelty to animals, because she did not wish the pigs to sleep in the parlor while said pen was being completed.

In many places the German and French texts of the New Testament are much more explicit than the English. One instance occurs in the third verse of the xith chapter of Matthew. The English version says, "do we look for another?" which would mean, are we now looking for another? The French and German says "*should* we expect another?" In the much controverted passage concerning the baptism of Christ, the German says in a wording admitting of no doubt that *he mounted* up out of the waters.

One must call to mind the clumsy, uncouth motion of bears to fully appreciate the ludicrousness of the following historical anecdote: As Henry II., King of France, was entering the town of St. Jean de Maurienne, where he had been promised an ovation, he was met near the gates by 100 men disguised as bears so perfectly, as at first limiting their motions solely, that it was difficult to distinguish the *ruse*. These men, with many bearish antics, closed around the king and carried him in triumph through the streets to the applause of the people, and the laughing shouts of Swiss guards and populace. Arriving at the house, they climbed up the sides of the buildings, up the columns and among the festal arches, all the time imitating the peculiar cry of bears. Seeing that the sport pleased the king, they again descended and executed a round dance, in which the Swiss guards joined. Afterwards they brought forth such an immense bear, yet that all the horses in the streets broke away from the grooms, and rushed down the narrow thoroughfare, overthrowing peasant, soldier and nobleman, in scoring many, though not ending the frolic "our France. Could she now be so Jolly?

Although McClellan did not use the spade to good purpose on the Peninsula, Sherman, on his famous Atlanta campaign, *did*; and, although people in '62 ironically declared that "spades were trump," three competent officers, who have lately returned from Europe, now declare them "trumps" indeed.

It is the decided opinion of these officers that the French understood or practiced our tactics of hasty breast work throwing they would not, have been driven back from the woods and hills west of Metz, as was Bazaine's army would France be in her present abject condition. Now, why have not Germany and France adopted our "spade drill?" Can it be but they depend upon the admirable precision and steadiness of their troops in the field? Does their pride insinuate that regiments may become cowards from fighting behind improvised rail piles and earth-covered logs? But they teach their skirmishers to take advantage of every mound, stump, or fence in their line. Their skirmishers do not become cowards. These same American officers ask the question whether the Germans could whip the Americans. Out of respect to a large body of our best citizens this had best not be discussed, but the answer of these gentlemen is "No."

Von Moltke's system has ever been: "Divided on the march, united on the field." It is almost useless to speculate on what "might have been," unless it be to draw some lesson for guidance in the future, hence we propound the question: "Is it probable that Von Moltke's system would succeed when carried out in the face of such an enemy as Napoleon I.?" Did not the Austrians try the same policy in Italy, until several large armies under the most experienced captains were completely annihilated in detail by comparatively a handful of men kept solid and compact, both on march and field, by the king of warriors?

Why has Pittsburgh never thought of and had a cheap boarding-house for respectable young men? Some on the same plan as that of A. T. Stewart for young women, in New York. It is true, we have a Young Men's Home, well conducted, cheap, and filling the bill in every particular except one; besides keeping, as a rule, boarders, many persons of respectability, it accommodates others (as a charity) of reputation and character of whom are, to say the least, doubtful. These two classes are kept entirely apart, yet the very idea of residing in the same house with such characters as the latter, is repulsive to some of the former. It may be false pride, but it prevents many from going there, and causes them to rob themselves to pay (say $8 or $10 per week) board, while they might procure it for $3 or $6, with room. It would pay some gentleman or men to build a commodious edifice, in which might be accommodated, at moderate rates, our young clerks, printers, &c. &c.

Seldom has a rebuke been so justly deserved, and so gracefully yet sharply administered, as that bestowed the other night by Theodore Thomas on some persons who would chatter during the performance of that most delicate of pieces, *Tranemerie*. That the audience was in sympathy with the conductor was amply proved by the applause which greeted his stoppage of the orchestra, and his "Will you be so kind as to cease to talk? It annoys me very much." There can be no "chatter" without a "box," and if the box sting, then must the "chatter box's" ears tingle.

When Louisiana was transferred to the United States it was stipulated that the navigation of the Mississippi and all its tributaries should forever be unimpeded. Now river men say that *any* bridge piers are an impediment, and common sense backs them up in the assertion. Has Congress then the right to grant charters for the building of any bridges, to say nothing of the one at Cincinnati, so obviously an obstruction? Would not an ultimate court of the United States be compelled to allow damages to any one whose property had been injured by such bridges, though the company had its charter or grant?

Mr. Locke ("Petroleum V. Nasby") has lately done a very novel thing—that of lecturing in the State Prison at Charlestown, Mass., before an audience of five hundred prisoners. Now that so many people are clamoring for more humane warfare and better modes of treatment of criminals, would it not be a good idea for more of our popular lecturers to follow up this initiatory step throughout the land?

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The sudden desire among the colored people to get out of America is noticeable. Up not so long since the colonization societies had scarcely enough applicants to return to Africa to keep in business, but now the New Jersey Society alone has 1,200 applications, which it cannot attend to, for want of money.

New sundry American insurance companies have reason to dislike Jim Fisk and his tools in courts and legislatures, for in attempting to establish branch offices in London, they can get no business, until it be "shown to be no longer in the power of directors in New York, by means of hired judges, to plunder their foreign constituents at pleasure."

And now Tweed enlarges his field of operation, and having long conducted the New York Printing Company to do its city printing, has bought the extensive Trow & Smith concern, to be ready to make his little profits out of the State work.

A company is formed to erect one of the finest elevators in the world on the North river, New York. It will be of 2,000,000 bushels capacity, and be ready for next season's crop.

The expenses of the Virginia State government for the past year were $1,943,323 94; none of the money, it seems, going for public schools.

To satisfy apprehensions about the safety of money raised in this country for the American College in Rome, it is stated that the funds are all invested in United States securities.

The other day eight mighty men of Brattleboro, Vermont, spent five hours in hunting down a ferocious wild beast, which, when killed, proved to be only a grade Alderney heifer which had lived on her own hook since last spring.

A peculiar feature in each of thirty-three new locomotives built at the Rhode Island works for the Great Western Railway of Canada, is the placing of the bell in front of the engine, with gearing to the driving wheel so that every revolution rings it.

At a meeting of the San Francisco Academy of Science lately held, was presented a queer fish, a sort of a cross between a cat-fish, a dog-fish a dolphin and a sea-devil. It has teeth, horns, flaps, and legs capable of being doubled up and concealed when it is necessary. It was caught in the ocean near the Cliff House, on Sunday last, and is not very common, and certainly not one that will ever become a favorite with those who love chowder. Professor Davidson exhibited a similar fish, which, he stated, had been caught off the mouth of the Cheuts River, Oregon, in October last, where it had been thrown up by the surf and was secured before it could return to the water. He stated that it was a savage fellow, and when captured blew a second of spray from two holes in its snout, and when a stick was placed in its mouth it would close the bone of it and hold on with sufficient tenacity to permit of its being raised from the ground.

Acton, Mass., by the bequest of Edward Everett is now in possession of the powder-horn worn by James Hayward, who was killed at Lexington, while pursuing the British from Concord. Mr. Everett, while it was in his possession, had it bound with silver, and a silver neck-chain attached. The story was that Hayward, having entered a yard to quench his thirst on that fatal and memorable day, was drinking from a well, when a British officer approached, exclaiming, "You are a dead man!" Hayward raised his gun, and both fired at one time. The British officer lived but a minute or two, and Hayward a little longer. The British bullet had gone through his powder-horn, making a round hole where it entered and a shattered one on the other side, and penetrated Hayward's body near the heart.

THE improvement in the tone of English Sentiment towards this county is strikingly manifested by the tone of the London journals on the subject of our differences with Canada. They are represented as condemning in very severe terms the attitude of the provinces on the fishery question, and declare that England will not stand by the Dominion unless she has the clearest evidence of right on her side.

PERSONAL.

Hon. J. Lewis has written a letter correcting the statement that the health of Wayne McVeagh is so impaired as to incapacitate him for the performance of his duties as Minister at Constantinople. The writer says of the gentleman, "that he has not had a day's sickness since his arrival in Turkey, and that he has fully recovered from the nervous exhaustion under which he suffered before he left home, and is as well as he has been at any time within the last ten years. This statement is made on the authority of his own letters, and those of Mrs. McVeagh, recently received, in which both writers speak decisively on the subject.

In 1868, Alexander Dunbar was employed by the Secretary of War for one year to instruct cavalry officers and veterinary surgeons in his system of horse-shoeing. It was also agreed to give him twenty-five thousand dollars for the exclusive right to his invention. The official reports, just published, show that the average per centage of horses on the sick list for diseases of the feet has been less than one-half what it was in former years. It has been determined to adopt this method of shoeing for the army, and a forge and portable blacksmiths has been sent to Carlisle Barracks, Penn., for instructions.

Gen. De Rochambeau, who fought beside Washington, and was the preceptor of some of the best officers of France, wrote to Lafayette, expressing an opinion—or rather a fact—whose truth has been wonderfully demonstrated within six months: "It is always quite right *to think* Frenchmen invincible, but I am going to confide a great secret to you, which is the result of forty years experience: *Frenchmen never cease to beat them the French when they have bad confidence in their leaders*, and they lose confidence in them when they themselves by personal or private ambition."

Mrs. Celia Burleigh launches this at Anna Dickinson: "Oh, priestess of reform! you who are so rich in gifts, so well command all things, I would that you could carry with you upon the platform the thought of those to whom the love of dress is a snare. How shall we say to them, 'Dress healthily; pure womanhood is priceless, all else inconsequent,' when such as you lend their influence to make extravagance the fashion, when you publicly endorse the Mohammedan sentiment, 'Woman was created to be loved and delight the senses?' shall I add the rest of the paragraph? 'and to be at once man's tempter and his comforter, that so he may be lifted for the enjoyment of Paradise, from whose serene delights she is forever excluded?'"

Mrs Elizabeth Cady Stanton, whose brilliant pen, after a summer's vacation, has begun to reappear in the editorial pages of *The Revolution*, is such an eccentric orthographer that her manuscript is generally copied, and sent to the printer in some plainer hand than her own. But the copyist sometimes makes as many mistakes as the compositor. For instance, in a recent *Reprint* (which she lately favored as pleasant satire against "white males" and their "rights") the word indigenous was twisted "white males!" When this blunder was pointed out to her, she laughed, and exclaimed, "Well, I am willing to take the *amende honorable*; but I don't know whether to apologize to the males or the mules!"

It seems that Bennett finds that his *Herald* cannot get along without the managerial talent it had for so many years, and Frederick Hudson has been re-engaged.

As it is over two years until Schuyler Colfax's Vice Presidential term ends, many things may intervene to prevent his acceptance of the rumored offer of $10,000 a year to edit the Brooklyn *Union*.

The Germans of New York have a full supply of theaters, chief of which is the Stadt, where Madam Louise Lichtmay is the prima donna. Her triumphs are marred, however, by the superior popularity of Miss Alma Kranse, who is younger, and is prima donna in the minor operas. The other evening "Tannhauser" was being presented, and Madame Lichtmay was *Elizabeth* and her rival a page, in the second act it was the latter's duty to seat herself at the former's feet, but no sooner had Miss Kranse taken her position than she received five or six good kicks from the noble *Elizabeth*, which, coming from a lady of some two hundred pounds, sent the page sprawling to the floor. She raised herself with great difficulty, and gone stanza of an air, and then retreated behind the scenes, where she fainted from pain. Miss Kranse was taken home, and is unable to appear for some time in consequence of the injuries received. The affair has created great excitement, and will doubtless be heard from again.

If Nilsson has really been engaged for a season of Italian opera at Fisk's Opera House after the holidays, it is a curious comment upon the announcement, that a religious vow, or something of the sort, precluded her appearance in oratorio, even to say nothing of opera.

All the Thanksgiving proclamations of last November are on file in the Ohio Governor's office, and it appears that Hayes, of Ohio, had the shortest, only 45 words. Merrill, of Iowa, had the longest, 384 words, and only four others exceeded Geary's 140 words.

John Surratt's Cooper Institute audience was "a beggarly array of empty benches," and it was no more than he deserved.

A Washington telegram says there are men in the city ready to make affidavit that Butler's suppressed book on Grant was intended to throw the odium of the disruption of the cartel for exchange of prisoners between the North and South on Grant, and that Butler denounced him as another specimen of the traitorous imbecility of West Point; also, that he (Butler) in private conversation threatened to return to his allegiance to Jeff. Davis rather than vote for Grant, characterizing the latter as the coming man, and predicting that if he was not taken up and run by the Democrats as their candidate or President he would destroy the Republican party.

The Hon. Jeremiah Sullivan, who died at Madison, Indiana, on Monday, at the extreme age of eighty-two, was a native of Harrisonburg, Virginia. He settled in Madison in 1809 or 1820, and was soon elected to the Legislature, but went out of political life in 1837, after being defeated for Congress. In 1837 he was elected to the Supreme Bench of the State, and served there until 1845, an honored member of a court that has ever since been esteemed as a model of learning and ability. Judge Sullivan, during its last session created a criminal court in Jefferson county, and Judge Sullivan was appointed to preside over it, and this ball he was elected as an independent candidate by a large majority over the regular Democratic nominee, having held court upon the day of his death. Judge Sullivan's chief claim to remembrance will be that, while in the Legislature, he suggested and caused to be adopted the name of Indianapolis.

Hiram Walbridge was the Atlas of the New York mercantile world, and bore his mighty burden with an elasticity of strength and spirit that fairly entitled him to the sobriquet once bestowed upon him of "The Commercial Phenomenon."

Senator Sumner, somewhat as a matter of course, takes charge of such foreign noblemen as visit Washington, the last to visit the floor of the Senate, and examine the Capitol under his direction being Hon. Henry Street, M. P., and the first the one at Chesham, so obviously an obstruction? Would not an ultimate court of the United States be compelled to allow damages to any one whose property had been injured by such bridges, though the company had its charter or grant?

Prof. James De Mille, who won his first fame four years ago by the "Dodge Club," in *Harper's* is a rapid worker, and has been selected to furnish four serial stories to various magazines the coming year, and it is related that one of the books, "The Living Witness," was finished in six days; and he completed, in six weeks, a manuscript which he sold for $2,000. He is in addition to his regular occupation as Professor in Dalhousie College, Halifax, and the case of his leisure in preparing a text book on rhetoric.

A. Bronson Alcott's entertaining "conversations" seem likely to keep him busy all winter. Having on hand six successive classes in Detroit, he is now bound for Dubuque and St. Louis, stopping by the way wherever people wish to hear his wisdom.

Faith Well Founded.

In old times at the commencement of every season, it was the fashion to take a strong cathartic as a safeguard against a change of temperature. It was a worse than senseless practice. The people of our day understand the matter better, instead of depleting the system they reinforce it. In the method they adopt they exhibit a wise discrimination. Instead of resorting to the vitiated stimulants of commerce, or any of the compounds derived from them, they put their faith in the only absolutely pure invigorant in the market—Hostetter's Stomach bitters. Their faith is well founded. Never has any tonic medicine been prepared with such scrupulous precision and conscientious care. It is a vegetable compound of which every ingredient is sound, wholesome, and *medicinal* in the true sense of the word. Now, we have three prominent national complaints. One-half of the adult population of the United States suffer more or less, either from diseases of the stomach, derangements of the liver, or affections of the kidneys. In no other land under Heaven are these maladies so general as in this country, and Hostetter's Bitters is a specific for them all, unless organic injury in their origin, and, therefore, beyond cure. And let those who are fortunate enough to be exempt from them at present understand one great fact, viz: that an occasional use of this vitalizing tonic will as certainly prevent them as the sun will prevent the earth from freezing where its genial beams descend.

Lubin's French Extracts
Lubin's French Soaps,
Lubin's French Sachets,
Thomas' Hair Brushes,
Bayley's Ess. Bouquet,
Low's Fine Extracts,
Low's Celebrated Soaps.
Squire's Glycerine Soap
Price's Glycerine Soap,
Sarg's Vienna Soap,
Brecknell's Skin Soap,
Brandy & Sherry Wine,
Cigars de Joy, for Asthma

With other Choice Goods, all of my own personal selection and importation.

SIMON JOHNSTON

Cor. Smithfield Street and Fourth Avenue,

SOLE AGENT FOR

PETER SQUIRE'S LONDON MEDICINAL EXTRACTS AND CHEMICALS.

W. G. ANDERSON

FRANKSTOWN ROAD,

Near the Greensburg Turnpike, EAST LIBERTY Keeps constantly on hand a large assortment of

CIGARS, of the Very Best Brands, TOBACCO, SNUFF, &c.

ALL THE LATE PERIODICALS OF THE DAY

Also, Orders for THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL received

Jas. T. Brady & Co.,

SUCCESSORS TO S. JONES & CO.)

COR. WOOD AND FOURTH AVENUE.

BANKERS,

BUY AND SELL ALL KINDS OF

Government Securities,

GOLD, SILVER

AND COUPONS,

ON MOST FAVORABLE TERMS.

INTEREST ALLOWED ON DEPOSITS

Money Loaned on Government Bonds at Lowest Market Rates.

Orders Executed for the Purchase and Sale of STOCKS, BONDS and GOLD.

JAS. T. BRADY & CO.

Ira B. M'Vay & Co.,

Cor. Fourth ave. and Smithfield St.,

BANKERS,

DEALERS IN

GOVERNMENT SECURITIES,

AND

GOLD.

Collections Made on all Accessible Points

IRA B. McVAY & CO.,

FOURTH AVE. AND SMITHFIELD STREET.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

MONDAY EVENING, December 12 1870.

Money is still working closer at many of our discount houses, although with many of our private lenders it appears plenty. Large amounts are offered the brokers on real estate security. They are generally shy of paper—especially the accommodation class, which is difficult to place even at 12 per cent. Collections generally are coming in too slowly to suit the wants of creditors, and in order not to press too persistently collections, resort is had to borrowing for a short time.

—Government bonds were a shade weaker to-day. The influences putting them up to the point they closed at on Saturday are known to the whole of an outside clique. The New York *Evening Post* says that a strong party has been formed, the principal members of which are well-known stock bonses and operators. The large Government bond dealers appear to have but little interest in the market, and the foreign bankers are doing nothing, owing, particularly, at present, to the interruption in the working of the cables. The operations of the combination on the influence of the Treasury in favor of higher prices.

Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co. report the following quotations of Government bonds in New York to-day, as furnished them by Jay Cooke & Co., their correspondents:

	Morn. Sales.	Close.
U. S. Bonds '81	107½	107½
U. S. Bonds '62	107½	107½
U. S. Bonds '64	107½	107½
U. S. Bonds '65	107½	107½
U. S. Bonds '65 new	109½	109½
U. S. Bonds '67	109½	110
U. S. Bonds '68	109½	109½
10-40s	106½	106½
Gold	110½	110½

James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth avenue and Wood street, quote United States securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	110½
U. S. 6-20s, 1881	107½
U. S. 6-20s, 1862	107½
U. S. 6-20s, 1864	107½
U. S. 6-20s, 1865	107½
U. S. 10-40s	106½
5-20s, January and July, 1865	107½
5-20s, January and July, 1867	107½
5-20s, January and July, 1868	107½
Union Pacific Railroad	97
Central Pacific Railroad	97
Currency Pacifics	103½

—The New York Sunday *Herald* says: The weekly statement of the associated banks is very unfavorable, showing, as it does, an impairment of the surplus reserve to the extent of about $3,000 000. The actual loss in reserve is over $4,000 000, compared with the week previous a million in specie and over two millions in legal tenders; but as the decrease in liabilities is $6,000,000 the loss in reserve is not so much as first stated. As the indications favor the theory that the loss in the movement is temporary, and the above results were produced, has been abandoned during the week, a very favorable exhibit is looked for next week.

—The gold premium, says Henry Clews's circular, is controlled chiefly by the varying aspects of European politics; and very naturally so, considering that the course of foreign exchanges, during the last five months of war, has been such as to cause large amounts of capital to rest temporarily here, which might be subject to disappearance in the event of peace or of an adverse result of the Black Sea question. So long as the war question is unsettled, the gold market is likely to remain sensitive and to respond only partially to downward influences, for what

The Daily Commercial.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

Watches, Clocks, Jewelry—Scott, Barrett & Co.
New Carpets—Mowatt Bros.
Situation Wanted—C. S. D., this office.
New Carpets—Bovard, Rose & Co.
Annual Election—City Bank.
Election Notice—Third National Bank.
Annual Election—Second National Bank.
New Carpets—McFarland & Collins.
House Wanted—R. Cumming & Co.
Stock Sales—A. McIlwaine.
Boarding—154 second avenue.
Boarders Wanted—28 Wylie street.
Undervear Gloves, Half Hose, &c.—Putnam's.
Green Houses—R. Cumming & Co.
Pittsburgh Nickel Plating Works.
Stained Cut Glass—Marvin's.
Bronze Mantel and Clock Sets—Tiffany & Co.
Teas, Teas—T. C. Jenkins & Bro.
Academy of Music—European Novelties.
Lecture—Rev. C. W. Smith.
Fair—Eleventh Ward Mission Sabbath School.
Trimble's Varieties Theatre.
Notice—Temporaneeville and West Pittsburgh Savings Bank.
Opera House—Fritz.
Cream Ale—Pier, Dannals & Co.
Clothing—Girling, Follansbee & Co.
Spalding's Glue.
Golden Wedding Rye Whisky—J. S. Finch & Co.
Stained Crackers—Marvin.
Hair Oils—Charles Abel.
Brown's Bronchial Troches.
Clothing—A. J. Nutting.
For the Tea-h—Sendont.
Hair Oils—Charles Abel.
National Insurance Company, Allegheny.
Fetzlon Grease—Hartley, McKee & Co.

STATE NEWS.

Scarlet fever is prevalent in different parts of Lancaster county.

A gentleman in Lancaster has devoted his spare time for a year past to the manufacture of miniature articles, such as coffee-pots, sugar-bowls, baskets, &c., from grains of stones. He has now a collection of 1,100 of them.

General Geary has appointed as Notaries Public L. Quincy Hoover, of Hollidaysburg, and John Sinceman, of Allentown.

A lady, who has resided for several years at Philadelphia, in rather straightened circumstances, was last week made happy by the discovery of a diamond of upwards of seven carats, valued at $4,000 in a box of old jewels, which had at one time been in the possession of her father. She had had it for ten years without knowing its value.

Cambria county has twenty-nine lawyers practising at the bar.

Lehigh county has fifty churches, with a seating capacity for 20,300. The buildings and land cost $370,000.

The retail coal dealers of Philadelphia, taking advantage of the recent strike at Scranton, are advancing prices from twenty-five to fifty cents a ton.

The Homœopathic Medical Society of Philadelphia have resolved that it is improper for a practitioner of that school to recommend the use of any bitters, nostrum or patent medicines.

Rev. Napoleon Mignault is negotiating for the purchase of a large tract of land in Titusville, on which to erect a Catholic church for the Germans. The property held for that religious body in the city is valued at $120,000.

The Caroline Richings-Bernard English Opera troupe are to sing at the new Opera House in Titusville, during the last part of January or first of February. Williams, Meggy & Mitchell and others are also to appear there during the season.

A normal school will be built in Clinton county next summer. The building will cost $85,000.

A mare belonging to A. Harvey, of Lock Haven, made the distance from Lock Haven to Williamsport, fifteen miles, in one hour and a quarter. The mare ran against a double team of colts for one thousand dollars, the record to be counted in favor of the mare if one of the colts one hour. She did better—distanced them.

Henry McCormick, of Harrisburg, gave $1,000 each to the Home for the Friendless and Young Men's Christian Association of that place, last week.

The citizens of Jamestown have organized an agricultural society, and bought twenty acres of land for fair grounds.

An establishment for the manufacture of boots and shoes by machinery is soon to be started in Johnstown.

Mr. Jerome Putnam was found dead in his bed at Blossburg, Tioga county, on the 31 inst.

Phillip Stuber, of Perry county, had his nose bitten off by a bull dog the other day.

A desperado named Jake Gabel shot and killed a young man named John Davit, in Erie, Friday evening. Davit had given the murderer no provocation. Gabel is represented as a hardened sinner, having already served two or three terms in the penitentiary. He was arrested and lodged in jail.

A convention of the bee-keepers of Pennsylvania has been called to meet in Meadville on the 11th of January next, for the purpose of organizing a permanent State association.

An effort is being made to raise the stock of the Meadville Agricultural Works to $150,000, a sum necessary to carry on the business successfully.

The Lawrence *Journal* will be enlarged to a thirty-two column paper the first week of January.

A four year old boy of Larry Hutchinson's, of Newtown, Bucks county, was poisoned a few days ago, causing his death. He found a bottle containing corrosive sublimate in a saloon, and drank of its contents.

Waterford, Erie county, contained a French fort, a French commander and a forced French soldiery in 1753. In that year General Washington paid the place a visit.

Lehigh County has nine German publications—newspapers and periodicals, religious and secular—with an aggregate circulation of fifty thousand. There are five English publications—two daily—with an aggregate circulation of four thousand weekly and one thousand six hundred daily.

Jacob Miller was struck by a falling tree, in Jefferson county, a few days ago, and instantly killed.

Forty-seven men were initiated into a post of the G. A. R., in Allentown, Tuesday evening.

A tomahawk weighing three and a half pounds has been unearthed on the line of the Union and Titusville Railroad, Erie county.

The Evangelic Church at Centreville, and the new M. E. Church at Shanoskin Dam, Luzerne county, will be dicated on Sunday, the 18th instant.

Samuel Stanton, a negro, living in Newville Cumberland county, made two attempts to murder his wife on Monday. Cause, jealousy.

The lecture course of the Young Men's Christian Association of Washington will be filled by Alf. Burnett, Prof. Vandenhoff, H. B. Swoope, Esq., John F. Pinkerton, Esq., Hon. Wm. Parsons, and Anna Dickinson. A sidelecture has been arranged for, by Rev. A. Reed, D. D., of Philadelphia, "Italy as I saw it."

The Ronsville *Evening Bulletin* is published by O. H. Jackson, instead of Johnson as it was printed.

Philadelphia has five hundred lottery policy shops.

Lebanon is to have water works, which will cost $150,000.

There were 241 deaths in Philadelphia last week.

The town council of Huntingdon is negotiating for the purchase of a hand fire engine.

The scarlet fever is prevalent in Williamsport.

A motion for a new trial has been made in the case of Lloyd Britton, convicted at Williamsport for the murder of Jacob Bay.

Many of the miners on strike in the anthracite region are improving their idle time by visits to friends and relations on the other side of the ocean.

There are 632 prisoners in the Eastern Penitentiary, ten of whom are women. More than fifty of the inmates are sentenced for life.

A young man named Peter B. Bryfogle committed suicide at Slatington, Lehigh county, a few days ago.

The Sabbath school library of the Methodist church at Mauch Chunk was robbed of a lot of books a short time ago.

The Columbia *Spy* is soon to be enlarged. It is a large paper now, but its increased prosperity warrants an increase in size.

The *Spy* claims for Columbia greater advantages as a manufacturing point than either Harrisburg, Lancaster, York or any other city in that section of the State. It has ample supplies of raw material, cheap fuel and navigation both by rail and water with the markets for manufactured articles.

The Collector of Customs at Erie writes to the Treasury Department at Washington that the British schooner M. Y. Emery has recently arrived at that port with a cargo of barley, and that the master says he will not pursue his voyage to Cleveland, the port of destination, this season, but will do so next spring, unless otherwise directed to unload. The object is to winter the vessel on the American side, store the cargo, and be ready for the spring market. The proposition is made, it is believed, for the purpose of ascertaining whether our government will allow this plan to be followed; if so, then other vessels are ready to winter at lake ports. The Treasury Department, however, fails to recognize the claims of Canadia; skippers to such a privilege as has been asked, and the only terms on which the vessel and cargo can remain during the winter will be at the expense of the owners for the services of the Government Inspector.

LETTER FROM DUNKIRK.

A Pittsburgher on his Travels—What and Whom He Saw at Erie, Dunkirk and Buffalo

Special Correspondence Pittsburgh Commercial:

DUNKIRK, New York, Dec. 11, 1870.

Taking advantage of the continued mild weather, your correspondent and constant reader concluded to combine business with pleasure, and this evening finds him in the pleasant and thriving little city of Dunkirk, New York. On my way I spent a day in the City of Erie, where I met with Bishop T. Mullin, whilome pastor of St. Peter's, Allegheny. The Bishop is very popular with all classes of citizens while in his diocese, and always takes pleasure in extending courtesies to his old Pittsburgh friends. Arriving at Dunkirk, an utter stranger, I was fortunate enough to meet with Rev. Martin Meagher, the very Rev. Rector of St. Mary's Monastery. This gentleman is well and favorably known to Pittsburghers as Father Martin. You will remember he was connected with the Passionist Monastery, on the hill above Birmingham. On while away the time, in company with the Rev. gentleman, we paid a visit to the Monastery. Since his location in Dunkirk, Father Martin has been indefatigable in his efforts for the moral welfare and education of the youth of the place, particularly orphans, of whom he has now possibly who receive regular gratuitous schooling under charge of Sisters of St. Joseph. It may here be remarked that the State of New York pay to all Sisters thus engaged in education a stipulated yearly salary—an example which might be followed by our own and other States. Besides these orphans, Father Martin has nearly six hundred children, who receive instruction under his immediate supervision. These schools are supported by voluntary contributions, and do not cost the State a single cent, except the small sum paid to the Sisters.

Believing in the adage that all work and no play makes Jack a dull boy, Father Martin considers amusement with instruction. To this end he has organized an amateur minstrel band, with which he amuses himself and entertains his friends. The only fear we have is that they may become such experts that a desire to travel may become them to leave the pleasant shores of Erie and "strike out for themselves." The Father, a musician himself, pays much attention to the instruction of his pupils in the science of music, and has now in the chapel connected with the Monastery one of the finest chorus it has ever been our good fortune to listen to.

At Buffalo, on our way to the Falls, we spent a few pleasant hours with Bishop Ryan, who is a native of Allegheny county, having been born, if we mistake not, in the village of Mc-Keesport. He is a genial gentleman, and delights to talk of his early recollections of Pittsburgh.

I will not inflict you or your readers with what I saw at the Falls, in Canada, elsewhere, and subscribe myself Mc3.

While the Supreme Court was in session yesterday in Salt Lake City, Judge Hawley and a prominent Gentile lawyer named Baskin had a difficulty. Baskin impeached the Judge's veracity and a fight was the result; both belligerents were interested. The Judge threatened to commit him for contempt, but thought better of it, as he had professional contempt for Hawley, who ordered the United States Marshal to arrest Baskin. Subsequently Baskin threatened to kick Hawley out of the Court room, claiming that the Court was not sitting.

CITY MATTERS.

METEOROLOGICAL RECORD.

Observations Made by the Storm Signal Service of the United States Army.

Pittsburgh, Dec. 11, 1870.	7:22 A. M.	4:21 P. M.	11:23 P. M.
Height of barometer, inches	30 05	29 90	30 11
Change since last report,	—01	—10	—15
Thermometer,	44°	47°	42°
Change in 24 hours,	—2°	—2°	—5°
Direction of wind,	E	S	SE
Velocity of wind—miles per hour,	6	8	6
Force of wind—pounds per square foot,	1	2	1
Character of sky reduced,	C	B	C
Beaufort scale, approximately,	1	2	1
Rainfall since last report to inches,	0 25		
State of weather,	3	3	3

NOTE—The barometer is corrected for temperature, elevation and instrumental error.

NOTE—In the telegraphic reports, only the variations of the barometer since the last report are given; decrease being marked by minus sign, and throughout the table by the minus sign.

Character of the weather is indicated by letters of the alphabet, as follows: B, clear; C, partly cloudy; D, cloudy; E, occasional brisk; D, very brisk; D, high wind; F, very high wind; G, strong gale; H, violent gale; I, hurricane; J, most violent hurricane.

State of the weather, in the same way, is indicated by numerals as follows: 1, clear; 2, fair; 3, light rain; 4, rain; 5, snow.

JAMES WEST, Observer Sergeant.

List of Unmailable Letters.

The following is a list of letters held at the Pittsburgh Postoffice for want of pre-payment of postage, and on account of misdirection. The writers can get them by applying at the Postoffice:

Patton Sommel W., Newark, N. J.	Cents.
Wolf G. W., Freeport, Pa.	3

December 12, 1870.

SEVENTEEN.—There were seventeen very common cases before Mayor Brush on yesterday.

MEETINGS.—The Central Board of Education meets this afternoon and Birmingham Council to night.

SILVER-PLATED ware for the holidays just received. John Stevenson's Sons & Co., 93 Market street.

OPERA CHAINS.—A few stock of fine gold opera chains of the latest patterns, just received by W. G. Dunseath, Jeweler, 56 Fifth avenue.

ALLEGED EMBEZZLEMENT.—Louis Baum charged William Naleer with embezzling $28, the proceeds of the sale of a horse. Alderman Koenig yesterday and a warrant has been issued.

SILVER COIN.—Mr. Chill Hazzard, the efficient Postmaster of Monongahela City, and editor of the Monongahela *Republican*, will please accept our thanks for the valuable coin sent us.

A VIOLENT THREAT.—Wm. E. Glenn having been threatened with violence at the hands of Peter Miller, of Pleasant Valley, was yesterday invited to issue a warrant for his arrest on a charge of surety of the peace.

FOR gold lockets, brooches, ear-rings, chains and fine jewelry, call on John Stevenson's Sons & Co., 93 Market street.

SLANDER.—Miss Margaret A. Fitzairn, of Allegheny, has entered suit against Kinlan McCombe, Eliza Godfrey and Kate Brown for slander.

SELLING LIQUOR TO MINORS.—Alderman Taylor yesterday issued a warrant for the arrest of a man named Pulsby, of Wilkins township, charged on oath of David Davis with selling liquor to minors.

CONTRACT AWARDED.—The High School Building Committee of the Central Board of Education met yesterday, and awarded the contract for the brick work of the new building to W. D. Lloyd, at the price of $4,350.

ONLY FIVE DOLLARS.—Readers, you can buy a very good Magic Lantern in a nice box with twelve glass slides, assorted pictures on each, for the low price of five dollars, before 12 M. to-morrow, at Kennedy's Jewelry and Optical store, 56 Fifth avenue.

ALLEGED FALSE PRETENSES.—Before Alderman O'Donnell, yesterday, Jos. B. Urban preferred a charge of false pretenses and printing to the amount of $13 25 by falsely representing that he was the owner of real estate. Warrant issued.

NEGLECTED TO SETTLE.—George Gross, of Sharp-ling & Co., was arrested on charge of Major Kreppe, who has retired. Captain Clancey is well known to our citizens as an energetic and efficient officer, and we hope he may succeed in his new vocation.

IMPORTATION OF SERVANT GIRLS.—A man from Missouri passed through the city yesterday, having in custody fifty-two young women, whom he engaged in Sweden, for house servants. The girls are to be distributed as the places had been obtained for them in advance. Double the number could obtain employment here.

NOT A HOTEL KEEPER.—Wm. Cain, livery stable keeper on Grant street, deponed to an information before Alderman McMasters, yesterday, charging Henry Gillen with procuring board and lodging at the Cottage Hotel by falsely representing himself as keeper of the Soldiers' Home, Water street. An officer is now searching for Gillen.

FINE TIME KEEPERS.—We have heard a great deal said about the fine running of the watches made by the United States Watch Company, Marion, New Jersey, for which W. G. Dunseath, jeweler, 56 Fifth avenue, is the agent. Judging from what we have heard, and what we KNOW ourselves, they are undoubtedly a splendid article of time keeper. Call and see for go where you will, you hear them highly spoken of.

ARESTING A HORSE.—Alderman McMasters yesterday issued a warrant for the arrest of Henry Gribben, charged on oath of W. J. Horne, liveryman, with obtaining a horse under false pretenses. The horse was obtained from Horne with a showing that he was a responsible man, and was then sold to Gribben, who is a stranger here. Gribben is said to be a horse jockey, which he had hired from Horne, across the railroad bridge over the Allegheny river. The horse fell between the ties, and was injured considerably.

SEVERAL INFORMATIONS.—Peter Philby, tavern keeper on Wylie avenue, has gotten himself into a peck of trouble. Yesterday David Davis made two informations before Alderman Taylor, charging Philby with selling liquor to deponents minor son, and also on Sunday. William McIntosh and John Mc-Duffy made information against Philby for the same defendant, for furnishing the ardent on their premises. Warrants in all of the cases have been issued.

A TRANSACTION IN BUTTER AND EGGS.—Daniel Jordan's mother has a stand in the market, and from it daily dispenses good fresh eggs and butter. Lately, it seems Daniel purchased a quantity merchandise for the old lady, but strange, as it may appear, she knew nothing about it. N. J. Herron sold the goods to Daniel for cash, and the bill was $400. Payment of the bill was $400, and as it has not been settled yet, Mr. Herron has entrusted it to Alderman McMasters, who will institute an inquiry and endeavor to adjust the matter.

Alleged Felonious Assault and Battery.

Bryan McMahan preferred an information against Reginald Fielding, a saloon keeper of Hatfield, for felonious assault and battery, alleging that the accused struck him with a poker, in his own (defendan's) saloon. Deputy Mayor Nichols of Lawrenceville, issued a warrant for the accused. John Powers appeared before Alderman Mitchell, of the same ward, and deposed to an information charging the defendant aforesaid with a similar offense, on which he required that Reginald deposit bail, etc., and for an imagined insult to his (Hart's) wife, outrageously abused him. A warrant was issued in this case also.

Temperance—Meeting To-night.

Among all the various philanthropic movements and activities of the age, none is more deserving the countenance and support of every decent minded man and woman throughout the land than the cause of temperance. Drunkenness is the curse of the land. Its ramifications extend into the remotest bounds of existence, poisoning and damning everything which it touches. Hence the temperance reform is one of the most useful of all the auxiliary Christian forces of the country. We are glad to know that Pittsburgh is not behind here. She has a large number of temperance organizations, which are accomplishing great good. Not least among these is the Young Men's Christian Temperance Association, to whose meetings we have so often referred. The regular weekly meeting of this society takes place this evening, Monday night at half past seven o'clock. The lecture will be delivered by Rev. J. S. Sands, an earnest and faithful worker of many years standing. Admission free. All are invited.

The Sabbath School.

The regular monthly meeting of the Sabbath School teachers of the Reformed and United Presbyterian Church, Sandusky street, took place last night in the church of Rev. A. M. Milligan, on Eighth street, the President, Thos. H. Rabe, Esq., in the chair.

It being the last meeting during the year, a somewhat larger attendance than usual was present, although the meeting was not exceedingly well attended. The election of officers to serve during the ensuing year took place in the absence of the President.

After the opening devotional exercises were over, the members proceeded to the election of officers, with the following result:

President—Rev. S. B. Reed.
Vice President—Mr. Samuel Mahood.
Secretary—Mr. John Montgomery.
Corresponding Secretary—J. W. Huston.
Treasurer—Wm. Douglass.
Business Committee—Rev. J. S. Sands, Messrs. John Spratt and T. J. Gillespie.

Votes of thanks were then unanimously passed to the outgoing officers for their ability, faithfulness and courtesy with which they had discharged the duties of their various offices.

The subject for discussion at the next meeting is "The Teacher's Training for His Work."

PITTSBURGH COUNCILS.

SPECIAL MEETING YESTERDAY

Transfer of the Farmers' and Mechanics' Turnpike to the City—The Fire Commission Meeting—An Ordinance Increasing the Police Force—Communication from the Mayor—Another Special Meeting to be Held on the 28th—Petitions, Resolutions, &c.—Miscellaneous Business.

An adjourned meeting of the Select and Common Councils of Pittsburgh was held Monday afternoon, at two o'clock, in their respective chambers, City Building.

SELECT COUNCIL.

A. H. GROSS.....President *pro tem.*
E. S. MORROW.....Clerk.

Council organized by calling Mr. A. H. Gross to the chair, and the following members answered to their names: Messrs. Ahl, Ashbaugh, Aiken, Brown, Burgwin, Cutts, Devlin, Duncan, Edwards, Fribley, Gallaher, Gross, Herron, Hopper, Jones, E. S.; Jones, Isaac; Kebert, Kirk, Lashman, Lockhart, Lowry, Lloyd, Morr w, Murdoch, Murray, McEwen, McMahon, McClymonds, Phillips, Ridd-ell, Sawyer, Seeley, Shipton, Thompson, Vainwright, S. J.; Wainwright, Z.; and White.

On motion of Mr. WHITE, the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting was dispensed with.

THE UNFINISHED BUSINESS OF COMMON COUNCIL—CONCURRENCES.

On motion of Mr. MURDOCH, the unfinished business of the previous meeting was taken up, and in all of the business following the action of Common Council was concurred in—

Petition of J. Wilhelm for permission to erect an iron shed on Sixteenth street—Committee on Wyoming Building.

Petition of Wm. Hutchinson, post-mortem proceedings in reference to Rose street, and requesting Street Committee to appoint time for viewing—Committee on Viewers.

Levi Breinnan & Wm. Ward, William Whitehouse et al., Martin Duffy, Thomas Evans, Martin Duffy, James Murray, Timothy Finn, J. J. Lawson, in relation to business tax—Referred to the committee on Wards, Boroughs, &c.

Preamble and resolution concerning the clearing of the grass points—Passed; petition for gas lamps on Mulberry alley and north side of Twenty-sixth street, Wylie avenue between Fifth and Congress street, corner of Washington avenue and Grant street, at Grant's Hill, one on the east side of Washington between Fifth and Congress street's extension to Forty-second street; one in front of Sixteenth ward School House, Smallman street, corner Twenty-eighth, between Twenty-eighth and Twenty-ninth, corner Twenty ninth and Penn, Twenty-ninth and Thirtieth; two on Second avenue, near Herron's place, in front of Forty-third avenue, Wylie avenue at various parts, corner Twenty-fourth and Liberty streets; on Fulton street, and on Forbes street, from Bates to Halket street—Gas Committee; petition for a sewer on Forbes street, from Bates to Halket—Street Committee; Resolution in reference to paying assessment on Thirty-ninth and Fortieth streets—Solicitor; Petition for Solicitor to report to Council, Memorial of H. Abel, for relief—Committee on Grading of Rose street; accepted. Petition of property holders on Forty-second street for benefit of Penn avenue wharf—Committee on Wharfmaster; communication relative to pipes over the Allegheny river—Committee on Change of grade on Catharine alley, Eleventh ward; Street Committee, Resolution in regard to the payment of the Penn Avenue Act, and steps similar to the Penn Avenue Act; passed. Bill of Thomas Bell—Street Committee. Resolutions for crossings on Center avenue, Overhill and Green streets; Wylie avenue at Forty-second street; Street Committee. Petition for Overhill and Green streets; Street Committee. Resolutions for crossings on Center avenue, Overhill and Green streets; Wylie avenue at Forty-second street; Street Committee. Petition for Patrick street and Wylie extension; Fifth avenue and Smithfield street; Wylie avenue and Congress street; and at Forty-ninth and Butler streets; Street Committee. Resolution for the grade of Forty-ninth street; Committee on Water Committee. Petition for the location of a fire plug and Wylie avenue and Granville; Robert's road; Wylie avenue and Patrick street and Wylie extension; Fifth avenue and Sandusky